

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 274747

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX(NELSON, CANDIE JILL)

SUBJECT: CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO:

-- CANDIE JILL NELSON

REF: STATE 194199

1. CONGRESSMAN STARK'S OFFICE HAS CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR. AND MRS. MILTON NELSON, PARENTS OF MS. NELSON, COMPLAINING OF GENERAL PLIGHT OF AMERICAN FEMALE PRISONERS IN MEXICO. MS. NELSON STATED THAT WHILE SHE WAS NOT TORTURED OR MISTREATED AT TIME OF ARREST, SHE WAS "THREATENED TO SPEAK THE TRUTH" OR SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN TORTURED. NELSON FURTHER STATES SHE THEN SPENT SEVEN DAYS IN A CEMENT CELL WITH NO FOOD OR WATER; WAS LATER TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER JAIL WHICH WAS RAT INFESTED. NO INDICATION IN EMBASSY FILE THAT SHE EVER COMPLAINED OF ABOVE CONDITIONS TO CONOFF. IN VIEW OF LACK OF TIMELY COMPLAINT, THERE APPEARS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD EVIDENCE TO SUBSTANTIATE COULD BE DEVELOPED AT THIS LATE DATE. HOWEVER, WITH REGARD TO GENERAL PROBLEM OF MISTREATMENT OF PRISONERS AT TIME OF ARREST, WE LOOK TO EMBASSY TO CONTINUE SEEKING SOLUTION AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL.

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2. NOTIFICATION OF ARREST: ALTHOUGH NELSON'S PARENTS WERE NOTIFIED OF ARREST PROMPTLY BY SUBJECT'S FIANCE, THEY COMPLAINED THAT THEY WERE NEVER OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED OF HEIR DAUGHTER'S ARREST BY EMBASSY. SINCE EMBASSY AWARE AT TIME PARENTS HAD BEEN SO NOTIFIED, WE ASSUME THIS WAS GREED ARRANGEMENT.

. WORK COMMISSION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DETERMINE HETHER NELSON SATISFIED SHE HAS BEEN GIVEN FULL CREDIT OR ALL COMMISSIONED WORK PERFORMED TO REDUCE SENTENCE, AND HETHER SHE IS NOW REINSTATED IN NURSERY JOB.

. PROLONGED TRIAL DETENTION: IT IS NOTED THAT PRE-TRIAL ETENTION EXTENDED OVER ONE YEAR, BUT NELSON SPECIFICALLY EQUESTED THAT NO APPROACH TO GOM BE MADE ON HER BEHALF TO PEED UP TRIAL. NOTWITHSTANDING, FILE INDICATES THAT ON CTOBER 16, 1974 EMBASSY PROTESTED IN NOTE TO GOM. WAS MBASSY'S PROTEST MADE AFTER A REVERSAL OF NELSON'S POSITION?

. APPEAL: NO INDICATION IN FILE THAT MS. NELSON HAS PPEALED HER SUBSEQUENT SEVEN YEAR SENTENCE. HAS SHE ISCUSSED THIS POSSIBILITY WITH HER ATTORNEY?

. VISITATIONS: DEPARTMENT COMMENDS CONOFFS FOR PERSISTENT ND SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO GET MS. NELSON OUTSIDE DENTAL AREAUGUST 29, 1975. PLEASE UP-DATE INCLUDING ANY OMMENTS PARENTS MAY HAVE PASSED TO CONOFF AT TIME OF THEIR ISIT TO EMBASSY DURING AUGUST 1975.

. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CABLE NO LATER THAN 12/10/75 TATUS OF ACTIONS INITIATED OR COMPLETED ON NELSON. KISSINGER

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